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PRESS RELEASE

March 17, 2020

The City of New Richmond has been monitoring updates from the Centers for Disease Control and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services regarding COVID-19. Out of respect for the health and safety of our employees and the community, the following public facilities will be closed until further notice:

Police Department Lobby: Closed to the public beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Fire Hall Lobby: Closed to the public beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Civic Center: Closed to the public beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Friday Memorial Library: Closed to the public beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

At this time, it is our intention to maintain all essential/critical city functions with our employees continuing in their normal capacity while working remotely and/or within the facilities closed to the public. Residents will see no change in the level of essential services provided for public safety (police, fire, and ambulance).

All residents needing to make utility payments to New Richmond Utilities can do so by mailing, placing their payments in the drop boxes located outside of the Civic Center, or by utilizing the online payment portal found on the New Richmond Utilities website at <https://www.nrutilities.com/>. You can also contact the utility by email at customerservice@newrichmondwi.gov or phone 715-26-4167. City and Municipal court payments can also be made via the Civic Center drop boxes or on the City of New Richmond website at <https://www.newrichmondwi.gov/>.

Additional City services can be obtained by visiting the City's website at <https://newrichmondwi.gov> or by phone at 715-246-4167.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission is urging anyone who is concerned about Coronavirus COVID-19 exposure to make plans now to vote absentee for the April 7th Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary. If your name or address has changed since you voted last, you will need to register with your current information. Please check your registration status at <https://myvote.wi.gov>. You may register to vote through Wednesday, March 18th. Registration after March 18th through April 3rd can be done by appointment.

Absentee voting is highly encouraged. You can obtain a ballot by visiting <https://myvote.wi.gov/>. Absentee requests through this site must be made before Thursday April 2nd at 5:00pm. All completed absentee ballots must be returned before the closing of polls on April 7th at 8:00pm. Absentee ballots can be returned by mail or placed in the drop boxes located outside of the Civic Center. If you are not able to request a ballot on-line, appointments will be each Tuesday until the election. To schedule an appointment call: 715-243-0403.

The City of New Richmond will continue to provide regular updates on its website and social media accounts as the situation warrants regarding cancelations, postponements, or closures.

For communication updates during this period please contact the following personnel:

Mike Darrow, City Administrator 715.243.0401

Rae Ann Ailts, Assistant City Administrator 715.243.0489

Beth Thompson, Community Development Director 715.243.0402

Jeremiah Wendt, Public Works Director 715.243.0439

Michelle Scanlan, City Clerk 715.243.0403

Chief Craig Yehlik, Emergency Management – office: 715.246.6667 dispatch: 715.246.6131